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A
DISSERTATION
ON THE
ROYAL LINE AND FIRST SETTLERS
OF
SCOTLAND.

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(Price One Shilling,)

 A
 N. B. In this Performance is a Catalogue of the Families settled in Scotland since the Norman Conquest; as also of those from a Scottish Descent; such as Dalrymple, the Surname of the late illustrious Earl of Stair, whose Life was wrote by the Author of this Dissertation. *****

(Price One Shilling.)

A
DISSERTATION
ON THE
Royal Line and first Settlers
OF
SCOTLAND.

IN WHICH

The Opinion of Doctor *Robertson*, "That
" the Ancient Britons were indebted to the
" Romans for the Art of Writing, and the
" Use of Numbers," is fairly considered; and
the Place determined whereon was fought the
terrible Battle of the Grampian Hills.

The whole contained in a Letter to the Authors
of the Monthly Review.

By ANDREW HENDERSON,
AUTHOR OF
The History of the REBELLION.

L O N D O N :
Printed by A. BRIDGMAN, for J. HENDERSON and
J. FOX, in Westminster Hall.
M D C C L X X I.

A
DISSERTATION
ON THE
ROYAL LINE AND THE SELLERS
OF
SCOTLAND.

The Opinion of the Author, that
the Ancient Britons were reduced to the
Romans for the Art of Writing, and the
Use of Numbers, is fairly confuted; and
the Place determined whereon was fought the
famous Battle of the Marston Field.

The whole contained in a Letter to the Authors
of the Monthly Review.

BY ANDREW ANDERSON,
OF
THE HILLS OF REBELLION.



LONDON:
Printed by A. BARNARD, for J. HENDERSON and
J. ROSE, in Westminster Hall.
MDCCLXXI.

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LETTER, &c.

GENTLEMEN,

HAVING lately perused your monthly Review, where, in the article about Guthrie's History of Scotland, you have condemned that Author for having admitted the first forty-four Kings generally received in the annals of that kingdom, I thought proper to send some few thoughts upon that subject, and the rather, as they are entirely new, and naturally flow from a right consideration of the matter.

But in the preamble I must observe,
that I only differ from you in a few things

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said about Guthrie, who, to my certain knowledge, was no scholar. One Mr. Gordon, lecturer at Bethnal-Green, one of the best Latin scholars of the age, frequently told, that he had translated Cicero's Orations from the French, and not from the Latin; which last he did not understand so well as a boy of good capacity in the third form of Westminster School. He was totally ignorant of the Erse Language, without which, and dealing in Etymology, no person can pretend to write to any purpose the History of that country; in a word, he was a man of no reach of thought, incapable of tracing out a matter with judgment; and as his History of England is almost all taken from Rapin, except such parts as contain his exceptions against that distinguished author; so his annals of Scotland are a compilation from old Lindsay of Pittscotty, and other such authorities, or made up of crude reflexions upon Mr. Buchanan, who knew the Latin fully as well as any since the time of Augustus Cæsar, and who spoke the Erse from his infancy; nay, I truly believe, he had more learning than all the Scots Historians put together.

As to the forty-four kings in question, I think the honoured Sir George M'Kenzie of Rosehaugh, Lord Advocate for Scotland, has established the truth of their existence, with all the force of argumet that an historical fact is capable of. He observes, with great propriety, that none ever impugned it till one Luddus, a Welshman, Anno 1582; and 'tis pretty strange, that the being of a man, such as Fergus I. who died 330 years before the Christian Era, should never be called in question till 1912 years after his death. 'Tis the received opinion of Historians, that the terrible battle nigh the Grampian hills between the Romans under Agricola, the Britons and Caledonians, under Galgacus, was fought in the 45th year after our Saviour's crucifixion, i. e. about 375 years after the death of Fergus I. at which time the country, according to Tacitus, who was married to Agricola's daughter, was well peopled; the noble Historian saw the natives, and conversed with them; and 'tis observable, that when he gives an account of new districts that were daily discovered as the army advanced, he uses the word *Natio & Gens*; the very mentioning of which in the Roman or Latin tongue, implied a kingly power, according to

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Justin, in the very first sentence of his first book, which last circumstance speaks its propriety: "In the beginning, the government of states and nations was in the power of kings.*"

The same Tacitus writes, that the several leaders resigned the command of the army to Galgacus, as the person of most experience, best acquainted with the country where was to be the scene of action, and perhaps the most powerful of the confederate princes, who were jointly to encounter the Roman army.

The Caledonians differed from their southern neighbours in their size, complexion, stature, attitude, colour of the hair and eyes, nay, in their speech, language, and every other thing, which to me is demonstration that their ancestors had come from Norway, or the southern parts of Gothland in Sweden; there being an extream likeness between the inhabitants of these and such as Tacitus has so well described the Caledonians to have been; and if so, 'tis highly probable that a regal government would be introduced by people who were governed

* Principio rerum, gentium nationumque imperium penes reges erat.

governed by kings. This need not startle any person, if we consider, that the mountains of Norway can be discerned from the Orkney and Shetland isles, that the navigation from Norway to these is but short, and the passage of the Pentland Firth, which separates the Orkneys from the Terra Firma of Scotland, is still shorter; certainly the country must have been peopled long before the battle of the Grampian Hills, and consequently must have been under some rule or government, which we contend to have been that of Kings, though we plead for no more prior to that period than 375 years.

There is not a word designing the office of a ruler, more ancient and universal than that which signifies King. In the Hebrew it is Melech, in the Greek Anax, or Basileus, in the Latin Rex, and in the Scots Earle Ri. Every person knows that the French, the Spanish, the Portuguese and Italian word for that dignity is similar thereto, Roi, Re, and Rey, are pretty much alike. Koning the Saxon word for that dignity, is indeed different; nor was it introduced till the arrival of the Saxons in South Britain, Anno 482; but then the power of the Koning, now King, was the same as that of the Ri.

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I do not pretend to say that the technical term Scotland is the original word for North Britain, no more than that England was the first vocable for South Britain; there is no such word among the northern or western Highlanders, or those inhabiting the isles, I mean such as do not speak the English. Albanach is the Earfe for the Scots, and is derived from Albion the Carthaginian vocable for the White Land; and if the Carthaginians trade with the Albanachs, here is demonstration that the country was peopled as we contend.

It is further observable, that the same noble Historian Tacitus informs, that one of the petty kings* of Ireland came over to his father-in-law, and invited him to cross the channel, assuring him that a single legion would insure his success in the reduction of the whole island.

That there was a natural intercourse between the natives of Ireland and Scotland, is universally acknowledged: the Irish Language and the Scots Earfe being but different dialects of the same Language, as the Æolian and Ionic among the Greeks,

* Reguli. See the Life of Agricola.

At this day the natives of Connaught and of Argyleshire can discourse with each other: I myself have conversed with some Irish gentlemen, who never were in Scotland, when their Irish and my Erse were reciprocally understood.

If the connection between the countries was so close, it is reasonable to imagine that their form of government was the same; at the period before us, 'tis probable this Regulus from Ireland applied to Agricola, not so much on account of reducing the other three Reguli under his subjection, as from a political scheme to make a diversion in favour of the Caledonians, who, if once subdued, the conquest of Ireland would become easy: whereas if the Roman forces were divided, not only the safety of the Caledonians, and their confederates, but likewise of the Irish, would be more firmly secured. Agricola, it would seem, saw through his schemes, and did not embrace the proposal. I see no manner of reason why the Latin name Rex may not be attributed to the chief ruler among the Scots, more than I can blame Julius Cæsar for bestowing that appellation upon the British or Kentish potentates; besides, there is not a word in the Erse Language more frequently

to be met with in composition than the word Ri, which is a demonstration that the original natives had an idea of its importance. In Argyleshire and Broadalbaine, the names of many villages, end with that syllable, such as Daalree, the King's Meadow or Field; Tobermorie, the King's Great Well; Clanmackri, the Children of the King's son, &c. I myself know above fifty farms in that country, called towns, ending with this syllable.

But if the account of these forty-four Kings be fabulous, I should be extremely glad to know when the forgery began, or if it be possible to think that such a matter should all at once fall from the clouds, and be enrolled among the archives of the kingdom. It is scarce probable, that a fiction like this could enter the repositories of any society; and many things determine me to believe that the people of those ages were not so much drowned in ignorance as some moderns would represent them. The art of architecture was known in Britain before the arrival of Cæsar, 54 years before the coming of our Saviour. The houses were of the same construction as those upon the Continent, and no doubt the Danes and Norwegians, at that time the best navigators in Europe, did, in their

their emigrations, pick up that art, and practised it with success in countries wherewith they carried on trade: 'tis true, Tacitus mentions no towns nor cities among the Caledonians; and Cæsar expressly asserts the want of both in South-Britain; but then each of these illustrious Authors informs us in general, that there were houses in their respective countries, and the latter abounded with inhabitants.

Every person has heard the fame of St. Columbus, the man who built the famous monastery at Icolmkill in Argyleshire. The records of the kingdom were kept there from his time, viz. 503 to 1057, when they were transported to Dunfermling, the place where the court of Scotland at that time was held by Malcolm III.

Is it possible to imagine that a man of St. Columbus's sanctity would admit a parcel of forgeries, and deposit them in a place consecrated to the Deity? or could he have been so very ignorant, as not to know the name of the man who ruled the nation in the preceding century? No doubt there were old men when Columbus was a child; and 'tis strange that these should, with one voice, tell that a King had existed in their days that never had a
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Being. Add to this, that the same St. Columbus was truly a good man, and is the person, who, in the opinion of all Historians, founded the famous Abbey of Melrofs, one of the noblest structures in the universe, and for many years the residence of the Scots Kings. The Monks of Icolmkill distinguished themselves in the seventh Century by a Resolution, which shews that they were not totally ignorant of the motion of the heavenly bodies: they refused to comply with the decisions of the council of Nice with regard to the keeping of Easter; which festival, in the opinion of the church, depends upon the change, the libration and aberration of the moon; the right understanding whereof is the very Key to Astronomy. And as the moon went on in her course without regarding the debates in the council of Nice; so the Monks of Icolmkill did, according to Bede, an ancient Author, the contrary of what the council of Nice had enacted; which leads to an observation upon that question in the Review, demanding to know the places where the seminaries of learning were fixed, and which expressly says, "The country is still barbarous enough."

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As to the question ; I answer, that the seminary of learning was first among the Druids in Aberdeenshire, and in the Mearns, as may be seen from the reliques of their Temples, compared with the ancient account given of them by Cæsar, and other Historians, who expressly write, that the youth were sent from Gaul and from Germany to the British seminaries, which were mostly in retired places, such as Icolmkill, and from them were several learned men draughted, who began the famous Scots College at Paris, anno 794, in the reign of Charlemagne, between whom and Achaius, King of Scotland, there was a league about two years before. This fact, controverted by the Reviewer, is established as full as any one fact at such a distance of time possibly can be. It is recorded, as Sir George M'Kenzie very justly observes, by Æginardus, who was Secretary to Charlemagne; and the very articles of the treaty are still extant in the archives of France.

As to the phrase, The country (meaning Scotland) is still barbarous enough, it is ill chosen ; whether it dropt from the pen of a Welshman, an Englishman, an Irishman, or a Countryman of mine own.

The country is so far from being barbarous, that I do not believe there is any in Europe of an equal extent, whose inhabitants are more civilized. The Latin language was well understood at the court of Scotland, even in the middle of the eleventh century; and it is not improbable, but the Monks of Icolmkill were conversant therein.

The annals of Malcolm Canmore, who was cotemporary with William the Conquestor, commonly called the Conqueror, were written in Latin. The letter from the nobles of Scotland to the Pope, anno 1320, is wrote in that Language.

The charters granted by our Kings are so many tokens of there being learned men in the Kingdom. In 1411 a royal University was founded at St. Andrew's, which before that time was only a private Seminary; and, in 1420, Doctor Gavin Douglas, Bishop of Dunkeld, translated the works of Virgil, and to this day he is confessed to have hit the sense of the Original: the famous George Buchanan has been by friends and enemies acknowledged a Scholar of the first Sphere: the illustrious Inventor of Logarithms was a Scotchman: David and James Gregorys were Mathematicians

ticians of the first rank, as were Mr. Simpson at Glasgow and the famous Mr. MacLaurin, from which last I heard the Anecdote about the Monks of Icolmkill already mentioned.

At this time there are no less than four Universities, filled with Men of great ability in the different branches of Literature, and every Parish has a School: in a word, I look upon the Inhabitants of England to those of Scotland as six to one; but the People of Education, I mean such as can read and write, in North Britain, to be ten times more than in South Britain. Sure I am, that if the country of Scotland be barbarous enough, neither the Welsh nor the English can cast a stone at them.

You certainly have heard of the Poem of Fingal, and afterward of Temora, in English, The King's large House, which if you look upon as authentic, then here is a further testimony of the existence of the first forty four Kings: for Morvern, whose King makes such a figure in that work, lies near the Castle of Dunstaffnage in Argyleshire, that ancient Seat of the Scots Kings.

These Poems are a further proof that the country was not altogether barbarous even
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in the earlier ages: you will certainly believe one, * whose performance you have commended; and he is positive that the Composition is preferable to the *Æneid* of Virgil, which last was always a favourite Author with me; I once could have repeated the greater part of that incomparable Bard both in the original and in the translation by Mr. Dryden, Mr. Duke, and other eminent Hands: however, the Poetry of Fingal or Virgil does not enter the question, the existence of a King in Morvern, a small part of Scotland before the Christian æra, is what the Panegyrist on Fingal will not refuse.

I know that Doctor Robertson is of opinion,
 “ that the first ages of the Scottish history
 “ are dark and fabulous. That the Scots,
 “ relying upon uncertain legends, and the
 “ tradition of their Bards still more uncertain,
 “ reckon up a series of Kings several
 “ ages before the birth of Christ, and afterward,
 “ that the period of the Scots history from the origin of the Monarchy
 “ to the reign of Kenneth the sixty-ninth
 “ King of Scots, anno 838, according
 “ to their own fabulous Authors, is the
 “ Region of pure fable and conjecture, and
 “ ought to be totally neglected.”

* Dr. Hugh Blair.

I own myself to be of a quite different opinion, and tho' you may condemn any production of mine, yet you ought not to condemn me for writing my real sentiments, some of which are now before you, declaring that of the several Kingdoms of Europe, there is not, in my opinion, one whose annals can be more depended upon, I mean from Fergus I. than those of Scotland, being attended with all the moral certainty requisite, that can either be inferred from probable Tradition, old Manuscripts, credible Historians, and the Testimonies of foreign Writers; our Historians were men of character, and some of them had been appointed to keep a register of facts as they occurred: Tacitus, Hegasippus, and Seneca, bear testimony to the Scots being a Nation in their days; consequently that the Country must have been inhabited many years before. Claudian and Sidonius Apollinaris mention the Inhabitants of North Britain under the appellation Scoti.

I will readily allow that the Aborigines of North Britain cannot be properly ascertained more than those of other Countries; one thing is certain, that every Island must one time or other have been peopled from the continent: but whether the first Colony landed upon the Southern or Northern coast,

coast, the Eastern or Western side of the Country, is a circumstance not to be traced out: however, it is abundantly evident that North Britain was inhabited before the death of Fergus, that is 330 years before the Christian æra; the very name Albion being the Carthaginian word for white land, the ships of Carthage visited the whole Isle of Britain, I mean the coast from Cornwall to Caithness, or more properly from Britt, the Country of Tin, to Alib, the Country of Men of white complexions: for it is obvious that the Carthaginians must have been black and swarthy; whereas the real Albanachs were, as Tacitus says, white, comely, and fair.

That Ireland, in Erse Erin, was inhabited before that time is undeniable: nor is it unlikely that the Colony from Celtic Gaul, whose coasts were ravaged by the Carthaginians, were the first settlers in the Western parts thereof.

It was no new thing for people in the earlier ages, to seek shelter in one country when oppressed by enemies too powerful for them in their own; the Celtæ felt the power and weighty hand of those who traded with them: the skill and ability of the one was an overmatch for the unaided strength

strength of the other; Forts and Citadels were built upon the Spanish coast wherever the Carthaginian seamen directed; towns and cities reared their heads in the midst of low huts and homely habitations: the Cities of Barcelona and Carthagena in Spain, still retain their Punic names: had the histories of Carthage come to our hands, we perhaps might find the particular time when the first colony set out; and know with an historical exactness whether that colony partly settled in Scotland, or confined themselves to the Western land now Ireland, not stirring from thence for some generations, one thing is certain, the language of the Irish and Albanach, their manners, and in time their government, nay and their religion were the same; they only varied by those incidental and trivial differences which time, self interest, or a communication with others, had introduced.

As all colonies are composed of Men of genius and fit for enterprize, so it is not improbable but that those who first came to Ireland or Scotland, were Men of spirit and vivacity; for the crossing of a Sea or Strait in the infancy of Navigation was more hazardous than afterwards: in any event they must have been acquainted with the arts and sciences of the times, if a colony

of the Celtæ from Spain or from Carthage, that seat of trade and Mistress of the commercial World; these must have been acquainted with the use of the javelin, the cross bow, the sling, the noble art of Architecture and method of improving ground; if from the North of Germany or Norway, they must have been inured to fishing, hunting, and all the articles of an hardy way of living, for which the Albanach have always been famous and renowned.

Let the Aborigines be either from the one or from the other, or be a mixture from both, it can never destroy the authority of our annals in support of the existence of the first forty four Kings. The first of whom, Fergus I. is handed down to us with so many circumstances, that I doubt if the accounts of the first founders of Greece or Rome can be ascertained with more propriety.

Bede, a very ancient author and a Saxon, informs us, that a whole fleet of Germans came at one time to the coast of Ireland, being driven thereon by stress of weather, and having heard of the hospitality of the Scots, they sent deputies to these, desiring to be admitted; and receiving answer that they should, on condition of joining in the war against their enemies, the strangers embraced

braced the terms, and sailing along the Western coast, doubled Strathnavern, landed upon the Northern parts to which the settlers afterward gave the designation of their respective Countries; they in general were known by the name of Picts, from the condition of the vessels wherein they came, and which were all painted.

These Picts were a superstitious sort of people, as Seamen in the North of Europe generally are; so the individuals of the new colony entertained the whims and fooleries about dreams and apparitions, and among others one of their old Men declared, that by a voice from Heaven he had been told, that in time their race should be extirpated by the Scots, the matter was readily believed: daily quarrels arose between them, trifling incidents brought on the fiercest combats; from personal encounters they proceeded to general engagements: which terminated in a treaty, by which it was agreed, that the Scots should separate from the Picts, and withdraw to the mountains, as the fittest for their way of living, and the Picts be left in possession of the coast, along which they extended themselves in time as far as the Tay; and in a short time beyond the Forth itself, where it is not improbable they founded Edingburgh Castle,

tle, and from thence arose the city known by that name.

There is not in the Teutonic or Saxon language a word more general than burgh, which signifies a community; and therefore it is reasonable to suppose that the places ending in burgh were first founded by those who spoke that language.

The general names of places point out in some sense the people who first settled therein; and whoever pleases to take a survey of the several places in the West Highlands, three fourths of these will be found to flow from the Galick language, i. e. the Erse or Celtic rather; in these districts there are seven words generally prevailing in the names of places; as ard high, blair a common, aber a mouth, daal a plain, kaun a promontory, glen a district, and strath an extended parcel of ground, Argyle, i. e. Ard na Gaul the high Grounds of the Gauls, there are above a thousand designations beginning with this word Ard, a prodigious number with Strath and Kaun, a great many with Blair, several towns and villages with Aber, and not a few with Glen; which with me is a convincing proof that the first inhabitants spoke that language, of which these words are a part: In the

the Southern parts of Scotland we find every place go by some designation; but then the principal component part is not to be found in any three of them; this might be observed of all the places, going by the name of William the Conqueror's Officers who built houses thereon, as Gordon, Riddle, Jordon, Dunse, Hume, Moffat, or more ancient than those Douglassdale, i. e. the country of the black grey Man, who on account of his bravery received these lands anno 767.

These lands changed Masters more frequently than their northern neighbours, and were sometimes possessed by the Gauls or Welsh, at other times by the Caledonians and Picts, who certainly would have been an overmatch for the Britons, I mean those of the the South parts of what is now called Scotland, had not these generally been at war among themselves; a prevailing Anarchy among the Chieftains of the different Straths, and Glens, obliged them as it were by one consent to invite over a foreign Prince to take upon him the chief command both in matters civil and military; accordingly they fixed upon Fergus the son of Ferquard King of Ireland, sent him an invitation; which being accepted, he came over among them, and by the unanimous

unanimous consent of the whole Chieftains, was invested with supreme authority, i. e. with kingly power.

The genealogy of this Prince, his reception, his conduct, and actions, the reason of his retiring, and the manner of his death are so many probable circumstances to prove the existence of the man, while the bare mentioning of Ireland must be an historical demonstration that the things were really as represented; which argument will be still stronger with respect to the other forty-three Kings.

Could I be of Doctor Robertson's opinion, that the Britons learnt the art of writing and the use of numbers from the Romans, I should be led to question the annals of illiterate men: but the case seems to be otherways, the Druids the then clergy in Britain were remarkable for both these; they taught Astronomy, which requires some skill in numbers; they understood the Greek language,* *Græcis literis utebantur*, and in all probability were acquainted with the works of Pythagoras, as with him they held the transmigration of the Soul.

* See Caesar, Com. l. 6. c. 13.

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This great Author informs, that the Druid Seminaries of learning in Gaul first came from Britain; if so, then their religion must first have come from the North, i. e. from Caledonia, who in all probability had it from the Norwegians or Scythians, no matter which, at any rate, the figure of the country was known; and tho' he did not go so far Northward, yet he calls it an Island, he pretty exactly describes the breadth of what is now called Pentland Firth, or the Strait between Caithness and the Orkneys, as also the nearest distance between Ireland and Scotland; which being the case, I must be of opinion, that this Island had been sailed round long before the time generally allowed. In all probability the Carthaginian Merchantmen had been the discoverers; and if so, the discovery must have been made even prior to the reign of Fergus I. since the demolishing of Carthage happened but 100 years after that Prince's death: nay, tis probable they had sailed as far as lat. 67° , since Cæsar writes that the Northern parts of Britain had the Sun above their horizon for 30 days without setting, in the summer season.

I indeed will readily allow, that the Latin language was introduced by the Romans,

mans, a language one half of which is from the Greek, a third from the Hebrew, and a fourth, either from the Vernaculam of the Celtæ and Carthaginians : but that these were not dialects of each other appears from this, that the innate words, such as the Sun, the Moon, the Stars, Water, Earth, Blood, Meat, Drink, Flesh, Fish, and others common to all Nations, bear not the least affinity or resemblance.

Thus *ἥλιος* is the Greek for Sun ; *Sol* is the Latin, and *Grine* is the Erse, or Gallick ; *Σελήνη* the Moon ; *Luna* is the Latin, and *Deallagg* is the Erse ; *Οὐρανός* is the Greek for Heaven ; the Latin is *Cœlum*, and *Flawness* is the Erse. 'Tis true, all Languages have some likeness, though that of the Gallick, Celtic and Saxon is the most different, there being as great a difference between Sun and Grine, as between Moon and Deallagg, *Poyne* and Milk, *Lowe* and Ship, *Fer* and Man, *Baal* and Hurst, or *Bal* and Den.

Though the conjectures arising from the original language do not compensate for the malicious policy of Edward I. in carrying off the Records ; yet they may sufficiently establish the doctrine that the Erse or Gallick was the Language of the Aborigines ;

Aborigines; and that these Aborigines had settled in the northern part of Britain before that Language was adulterated by the arrival of the Romans or Carthaginians; or, if you will, by the irruption of the Sarmatæ, and other Nations, who carried their Language and Laws with them: so that, be their government at first Aristocratical, or Democratical, yet it is no way improbable, that they introduced the royal power at that period contended for; nor ought the removal of the Archives to be made an argument against them: for, doubtless, the enemy of the Scottish nation and name was conscious that there was an historical proof of their extended ancestry, particularly their Kings, which ended their Lineage in Fergus I. or else it would have been preposterous to remove them. This I take to have been the sense of the Nobles of Scotland in the year 1320, when they wrote that ever-memorable Letter to the Pope, in which they mention, with such solemnity, the extended race of their illustrious Kings; and, no doubt, they had the Monks of the different Monasteries to assist them in it.

There were three periods in which the records of Scotland were partly abused; the first was by the Danes, who, after a pos-

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session of the Hebrides for 160 years, during which they introduced many of their names, and several words of their language, they barbarously destroyed the most stately fabrics; and, among others, the beautiful monastery of Icolmkill, as they did that of Melrose, during their wars with Malcolm II. However, it is reasonable to suppose, that there were copies of these archives in other Monasteries, and particularly the Catalogue of our Kings. The second was that of Edward I. who, whether by design, or otherwise neglected to visit some of the noblest in the Kingdom; in all of which it is highly reasonable to suppose there were Catalogues of our Kings. I do not find that he meddled with the grand and noble Fabric of Melrose, which had been raised from the ruins of the first by David I. anno 1120; the Abbey of Arbroth escaped likewise; so did the stately Fabrics of Pluscarty and Elgin, two of the noblest in the known world, and at that time but a new pile. That ornament of the North, which last was not destroyed till forty years after Edward's death; when Stuart, Earl of Buchan, son to Robert III. out of pique to Dunbar, Bishop of Murray, set the same in flames. It was founded by Andrew, Bishop of Murray, 15 July, anno

anno 1224, equal in length to St Paul's in London, but surpassing it in breadth. It will not appear incredible, that Copies of the Scots History, at least of the Catalogue of their Kings, existed in every Abbey in the Nation. The third period was that when Oliver Cromwell sent to the Tower of London the Public Registers, Rolls and Records of the Kingdom; which, after the Restoration, were sent down by sea; but the ship, wherein they were deposited, was lost irrecoverably, off Holy Island: However, he did not carry all the Deeds and Histories of the Nation: for Copies of our Histories were at that time all over Europe, and many things were secreted from the rage that prevailed: for I have seen the Registers of the Abbeys of Kinloss and Aberbrothwick, as also the Minutes of Parliament, in Manuscript for many years before Cromwell was born.

The Writers of the Scottish History, as far as we can know, were first Cornelius Hibernicus. He wrote in Latin, knew the Erse, the Language wherein was the Catalogue of our Kings; and it is impossible, without breaking through all the rules prescribed by charity and moderation, to think that he could trump up so circumstantial a Catalogue of men who never existed.

Turgot, Prior of Durham, and Bishop of St. Andrews, wrote the Lives of Malcolm Kenmore, and of his Queen Margaret.

I need not mention the Book of Scone, kept like a Journal by the Monks thereof, nor those of Paisley and Pluscarty; the History of Sir William Wallace, by Blind Harry, or of King Robert Bruce, by John Barbour, Archdeacon of Aberdeen. John Fordun wrote his Scoti-Chronicon, which really seems to be well digested. It is a large Folio, wrote in a legible hand, deposited in the Library of the College of Edinburgh. John Major, Provost of St. Salvador's College, in St. Andrews, wrote the History of his Country about the year 1520; and Bishop Elphinstone, who founded the King's College of Aberdeen, wrote a Treatise of the Scottish Antiquities,

Hector Boyce, the first Principal of the College of Aberdeen, wrote the History of the Nation till the Reign of King James III. which was continued by John Ferrerius, a native of Piedmont, and Monk of Pluscardy, till the Reign of King James VI. anno 1567. Boyce's History was translated

translated into English by John Baladen, Archdeacon of Murray. George Buchanan, that Ornament of the whole, wrote the Annals of the Country from Fergus I. to 1572, of which Robert Johnston wrote a Continuation till 1624, in a Latin Folio.

John Leslic, Bishop of Ross, likewise wrote the History of the Kingdom, as did Raphael Holinshed, and Thuan, a French Gentleman, continued it afterwards. William Cambden obliged us with a Description thereof, as did John Demster with an Introduction to the Scottish History.

David Chalmers published a Treatise of the Scottish Saints.

David Hume, of Goodscroft, wrote an History of the Houses of Douglas; and Angus Drummond, of Hawthornden, the Lives of the five James's; and William Saunderson those of Queen Mary, King James VI. and Charles I. and, to compleat the whole, John Spottiswood, Archbishop of St. Andrews, wrote the History of the Scottish Church, from the first Plantation of the Christian Faith therein, till the Death of King James VI. Add to this, that Gordon, of Strathloch, wrote the

the Theatrum Scotiæ; or, A Description of the whole Kingdom.

Here it is observable, that none of these disputed the Existence of the first forty-four Kings; and when the doubt, containing a period of 830 years, from 330 years before Christ, till 500 after, was started, the same was removed by Sir George M'Kenzie, whom the worthy Mr. Ruddiman, my particular Friend, calls *Singulare illud Lumen Scotiæ, Antiquitatum et Diplomatum Prepugnator acerrimus.*

One may be a little surpris'd that I should defend an opinion so contrary to that of Doctor Robertson; which last was one of those to countenance my History of the Rebellion, took it regularly in Numbers as it came out, and with whom I was always in perfect friendship, I shall not enter into any dispute about the definition of Caledonia, given by James M'Pherson, or by Mr. John M'Pherson, who was once Minister of South Uist.

The word Caledonia seem'd to be natural enough to a people conversant in the Greek Poets: we find a city called Caledon in Peloponnesus (now the Morea) as also a Piper called Calydon in Theocritus. Ma-
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ny definitions might be given of it ; such as Cail duin, the Men of the Woods ; or Cael doch, the District of the Celtæ : for, to this day, a Dach in the North of Scotland signifies a portion of ground consisting of four ploughs, i. e. as much as these will prepare in a season. We need change no G into C, and *vice versa* ; for Galdach signifies at this very time an Highlander or Mountainer in every place where the Galick or Erse is the Vernaculum ; and some villages begin with the syllable Gal.

Here I would observe, that no living Language is more independent than the Galick, the things common to all nations being expressed in words that bear an affinity to no other : so that if the Celtæ were the first to settle in that part now called Scotland ; their Language, in its original simplicity, can be found only in the Galdach, or Highlands and Islands of that Kingdom. Now they are obliged to gallify (so to speak) many things, of which there was no idea amongst the Celtæ ; such as Bible, Coat, Gown, and other things too tedious here to mention.

'Tis

'Tis nothing in this dispute, whether the Britons, from the Southern Provinces of this Island, propagated into the Northern; or if those were first settled by a Colony of the Celtæ, and afterwards by the Germans; all contended for, is that every probability is on the side of the Historians, who admit the existence of the first forty-four Kings.

These are some of the arguments which I frequently have heard from the Literati when treating of this subject: and in the course of this debate, I came to the knowledge of a thing, concerning which there have been many dissertations; nor would I have touched upon it, but that the conjecture is new.

There has been a long dispute about fixing the particular spot where was fought the terrible battle of the Grampian Hills: some will have it to have been near the Church of Comrie; others place it about sixteen miles from Dunkeld toward the South East. In a word, there is a diversity of opinions; which led me to read the description given by Tacitus with the utmost attention, and compare it with what light could be drawn from the Topography
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of the places 'tis needless to dwell on any preamble about the matter; I look upon the field of Battle to have been on what is now called Munrouman Muir, in the shire of Farfar.

This Munrouman Muir runs almost from the Tay to the Grampian Hills for above forty miles; and these answer the description given by Tacitus; who says, that after the battle, Agricola marched the troops to the boundary of the Horesti, where they embarked at the mouth of the Tay for Utupium, now Sandwich in Kent: the name Munrouman, i. e. Monumenta Romana, favours the conjecture, and the universal tradition of the country people is, that there was a terrible slaughter upon that Muir, (or Downs,) but none pretend to say when the same happened: and truly the massacre must have been terrible indeed; since the prisoners were all put to the sword, so soon as other prisoners were taken; *Secreti colles, vastum ubique silentium? copias deduxit in finis horestiorum*, are the phrases not to be got over in this debate: and as Agricola did not extend beyond the Grampian Hills, the Boundary of Scotia, but took hostages for their peaceable behaviour, that is a proof that the country beyond these was peopled, and a

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large district it is. Upon the whole, I am of opinion, that a regal power existed in some part of Scotland from 330 years before Christ, to the Union of the crowns, anno 1603. and that in other Nations, the stronger over-run the weaker. 2dly, That there was a treaty between Charlemagne and the King of Scotland, anno 792; and that the same is proved by irresistible evidence, no less than that of Æginardus, who was secretary to Charlemagne. 3dly, That the country called Scotland has produced very great and learned men, and that the proportion between the illiterate who can neither read nor write, and such as can, is less there than in any one country in Europe. 4thly, That the art of writing, and use of numbers, were both known; since 'tis undeniable, that the technical terms for numbers from one to a million bear no resemblance to those of any other tongue: if you be of a different way of thinking, I shall be glad to be set right; for, I seek truth, and neither praise nor victory.

Mr. Griffiths, who began the Monthly Review, will bear witness how desirous I was to rectify every mistake that had crept into my History of the Rebellion, and which was twice pirated, and three times reprinted: that same gentleman invited me about twenty

ty three years ago to write the History of Scotland; and I hope that what is here contained will not alter the good opinion then formed of me: my Manuscript is ready, and I have been upon it for many years.

I shall conclude with observing, that a little attention paid to the designation of places in the different counties, their language and customs, are proofs of many things contained in our History, and tend to throw light upon some matters otherways obscure: thus along the Eastern coast of Scotland, there are a prodigious number of Dutch words, such as, he coft, i. e. he bought, &c. in the vernaculum of the country people, and even the Galic of the North Highlands is adulterated with these.

In the Southern provinces, there are a great many French terms, such as, a douee, i. e. a kind man; a fashious, i. e. a troublesome man; the Cruells, i. e. the loathsome disease called the King's Evil; an indication that the court of Scotland was held at Melrose, as our Histories give out, and that the foreign Ambassadors had seats in the neighbourhood thereof.

The many places in Kent ending in Den confirm what is contained in the English
F 2 annals

annals concerning the Danes inhabiting there, and those in Hurst, that there have been Saxons also: nor do the numerous places terminating in Den in the shires of Aberdeen and Farfar, less ascertain the accounts of the actions of Cruden (cruor Danorum) Kames cross, i. e. the obelisk of Camis a Danish General, who fell there anno 1006. The field or Common of Denmure is a monument of the massacre of the Danes by Macbeth anno 1034; and the village of Largs in the shire of Renfrew, points at the overthrow of the Norwegians anno 1263: and as Ham in Kent proves that Germans lived there; so the Stewarty of Cuningham, (i. e. the Koning Ham, the King's habitation) in the shire of Aire, points at a German extraction.

Tho' the names given to a field of battle, do not prove that the vanquished or their ancestors were once the peaceable possessors of the country, yet the many places both in the Highlands and Isles point out the mother country no less than the French, Spanish and British colonies do theirs. To begin with Shetland, there are many places there of the same appellation with those in Norway; Lerwick, the chief town of the former, is probably from one upon the continent of the latter: Gardie in Sweden gave title to an illustrious Count; and Gardie

Gardie in Shetland, gives a designation to a Gentleman of the name of Henderson there. The most places in Orkney and Caithness are from Norwegian names, as are several in Sutherland, Embo, Skelbo, Skibo, Torbo. In these are fewer places from the Galdach than from the Saxon tongue: the Shires of Inverness, Ross and Cromartie are otherways, and indeed so is the Shire of Nairn; but then the Shire of Murray (Moravia) abounds with German appellations; from which circumstance, I humbly think, that the first settlers were rather from Scandinavia than from Ireland, or from South Britain: nor is it less probable, that the Shire of Argyle, and the western Isles were peopled from Ireland, or from that part, whence the first settlers in Ireland came; since five places out of six are from a Goaldach derivation: 'tis true, that in the Isles there are some places ending in Burgh, and from a Danish word; but few when compared with those from the Goaldach original. The same arguments will prove, that Galloway was first peopled from Wales, or by the Gauls, the very name speaking out the thing that is asserted.

The vast Tract of Country running from the Mull or Point of Kentrie to Dungsby in
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in Caithness, divided into the Albanach and Goaldach, formed a Kingdom, I had almost said Kingdoms, into which the Roman arms did never penetrate: for it is observable, that even Agricola himself did not cross the Grampian Hills, which are not above seven miles over. Had he passed these, perhaps he would have found more work than he imagined: for that District, at this time, contains above four hundred thousand inhabitants; and, 'tis probable, it was then well peopled. There are many great estates within it, and the coast is one continued Fishery.

Is it possible to suppose the Natives of these to be so stupid as not to know the Name of their first Magistrate? or some way or other not to set it down? It seems, Agricola looked upon them as people capable of being treated with; since he took hostages for their peaceable behaviour. His Son-in-Law Tacitus thought so likewise, or he never would have given so minute a description of the disposition of the Caledonian General; a disposition equal to that of Hannibal at the battle of Negarada, and no way inferior to that of the French General, the Duke de Noailles: nor yet would he have marked down the emphatic Speech, of which no Orator, of ancient Greece

Greece or Rome needed be ashamed. It is filled with proofs of his acquaintance with the Annals of former times: it is couched in all the terms of politeness requisite in an Address to people of different States: it breathes a spirit of affection and tenderness to his country, full of all the sentiments of a Hero and of a man, equal to what Roman ever uttered, inspires with steadiness, courage, and resolution, to fight in the cause of their "Native LIBERTY;" and the very last words may vie with any that ever proceeded from the lips of an heathen Commander: "As you march into the field," said he, "think upon your Ancestors, look forward upon your Posterity." Certainly Tacitus did not make all this of himself: I presume he had it from the prisoners, who, if capable of such a representation, must have been men of some capacity; and the noble Historian seems to have had too much candour and integrity not to have marked it down as near as possible to what was represented.

Had the State or States, from whence Agricola took hostages, been Republicks, he would, like the Senate of Rome, after the destruction of Carthage, insisted upon one or two hundred of their young men; but

but if it was a Kingdom, the King's son, or a principal Chief would suffice; and sure I am, the accurate Historian would not have passed over such a circumstance.

If four Potentates in Kent had each the name of Rex, i. e. King, the chief Potentate of the country beyond the Gram-pian Hills deserved much more considerably than any of them; I had almost said, than all put together. I am inclined to think it was preferable, on account of the rich white and herring fisheries, which I dare say did not escape the prying search either of the Carthaginian or Scandinavian merchants, much less of the natives themselves: for it is observable, that the vocable in the Erse for fish in general, and the particular species thereof is wholly independent; it would be also too strained an etymology to derive Eisk the Erse word for Fish, from Ichthus the Greek, or Piscis the Latin; Goab is the Erse for an Haddock, and Scaddan for an Herring, not to mention others upon the watery element. Even at this day, I doubt much if the County of Kent be more valuable than these extended districts, notwithstanding all its improvements, especially in Hops, the single article of which produces annually, at an average, seven thousand Tons, which selling, *communibus annis,*

annis, at one hundred pounds per ton, then the income will be seven hundred thousand pounds sterling: a large income indeed, which could only be equalled by that inexhaustible Mine the White and Herring Fishery, which I am sorry to say is but too much neglected; however, there are many thousand lasts of Salmon caught upon the Dee, the Divron, the Spey, the Findhorn, the Nairn, and the Ness; as also upon the waters of Contin, Brora, Helmsdale, and Thurso: and as to the Herring Fishery, 'tis notorious what cargoes of Herrings are shipped yearly from the Lewis, from Loch Fine, and from Kintire.

Tho' the bulk of the inhabitants of these Districts are not the descendants of those who lived at the time of the battle of the Grampian Hills; yet the first settlers of the country may be traced out in the manner represented: the principal families in these, viz. the Campbells and Gordons, who possess a prodigious tract of a valuable country, are from a French extraction; so are Sinclairs and Frazers; as are those of the name of Archer, Bertram, Bayley, Brown, Colvil, Corbet, Charles, Chisholm, Cummin, Disard, Grey, Horne, Hume, Kerr, Law, Linsays, Maule, Montgomery, Morton, Oliphant, Riddell, Rollo, Rose, Somervell,

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Wishart,

Wishart, and Ward; the Drummonds, Lesleys, Kennedys, Innees, and Ogilvys, are from Hungary; the Haldanes and Jardens from Denmark; and I am apt to believe that the numerous tribes of the Surnames ending in son, are more from Scandinavia than from the Highland Macs, or from those of the Isles.

The Murrays and Sutherlands came in a little after the time of Agricola; these last, with the Keiths and other tribes of the Catti, including the M'Phersons, the most ancient of the whole, the M'Intoshes, Farquharsons, Shaws, M'Beans, and M'Phaills, are from Germany, and can be traced up to the reign of Domitian; the numerous clans of M'Kenzie, M'Kinnon, M'Lean, and of Munro, are from Ireland, not above five hundred years ago; and there are many places, both in Ireland and in the Highlands, of the same designation; such as Ross, Culrairie, Kilmore, &c. Among the Nobility there are but few Families who can with any degree of justice claim their descent from the first settlers; viz. the Stewarts, the Douglasses, the Scotts, the Grahams, the Forbeses, the Hays, viz. the family of Errol for that of Tweeddale, is from France: this observation may extend to the M'Donalds with their followers, the M'Eans, M'Glashans, and the Robertsons, &c, &c.

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In a word, I look upon ten parts of the country out of twelve to be now in the possession of those whose ancestors came in since the Norman conquest: however, that is no argument against it's being governed by Kings; the account of whom if fictitious, I own is strange to me.

In my Life of William the Conqueror, a book you commended, I have traced his Majesty's Genealogy up to that Prince, consequently to Malcolm Canmore, whose daughter Matilda by Queen Margaret, sister to Edgar Atheling, who was married to Henry I. the Conqueror's Son. The abilities of Malcolm were great: for, after being trained up in the School of adversity, he was educated at the court of Edward the Confessor, where he became acquainted with the whole English Nobility, to many of whom he was related by virtue of his mother, daughter to the famous Seward Earl of Northumberland; he even became acquainted with the Duke of Normandy himself: he was the third of his name, the first of whom lived a full century before. I hope the forgery did not begin in his time, nor indeed in any other; as the act itself would be scandalous, and answer no manner of end.

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